

**Consent to Participate in the Evaluation of First 5 California's  
Comprehensive Approaches to Raising Educational Standards (CARES) Plus  
for the Early Learning Workforce**

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Introduction. First 5 California supports programs to help all children in California enter kindergarten physically and emotionally healthy and ready to succeed in school, which include support to the early learning workforce. The information collected in this study will help First 5 California learn which programs are successful and help us improve all programs.

You are invited to participate in this study because you are engaged in training, education and assessment as part of the CARES Plus program. Your participation is not mandatory. If you do not wish to be part of the study, you may still participate in CARES Plus.

Procedures. If you agree to be in the study, we will examine the data you provide in the attached application, as well as information about your education, training and assessment activities. If you previously participated in CARES, we may examine data you provided at that time. We will not ask you questions about alcohol/drug use or any arrests or convictions. If you continue in CARES Plus, and you agree, we will follow up with similar data collection, as needed, to determine CARES Plus effectiveness in training, retention and education of participants.

Benefits. There are no direct benefits to you for being in the study. However, your information may help us improve future First 5 programs.

Risks. There is a very small risk for you to be in the study. Someone could learn that you are in the study. But First 5 has very strict requirements on keeping what you tell us private. Only authorized persons will have access to what you tell us. Your name and personal information will never be used in reports. The exception is if you tell us something that indicates that you may be harmed, we must take action so that this will not happen.

Questions. If you have questions regarding the CARES Plus evaluation, you may contact Robert Dean at (916) 263-1050, via email at [evaluation@ccfc.ca.gov](mailto:evaluation@ccfc.ca.gov) or at the above mailing address. If you have any questions about your rights as a research subject, you may contact the Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects at (916) 653-0176.

Voluntary Participation. You can still participate in CARES Plus if you don't want to be in the study. You can stop being in the study at any time and still participate in CARES Plus. You can fill out a form asking that you stop being in the study and your data will not be used. The same CARES Plus staff who provided your CARES Plus application can provide you with the form to withdraw from the study.

Research Subjects Bill of Rights. You have rights as research subjects. Attached is a copy of the Research Subjects Bill of Rights for you to keep.

*I certify that I am at least 18 years of age, and agree to participate in the above study. I have had my questions answered about participating in the CARES Plus evaluation.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant Name (Please Print Clearly)

County of Residency: \_\_\_\_\_